

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claim 2, without prejudice or disclaimer, based not upon the prior art, but upon the electric motor referenced in Claim 2 being incorporated into Claim 1 as amended to reduce the issues involved with the prosecution of the claims in this application.

Please amend Claim 1 as follows:

1. (Presently Amended) An improved apparatus for cleaning articles in a fluid and oscillating medium, which comprises:

a frame;

a container having a wall with interior and exterior surfaces, and having a central axis perpendicular to an article inlet opening in the container and mounted to the frame so that the central axis of the container is non-perpendicular to a horizontal cross-section of the frame by means of a plurality of opposing parallel compression and tension springs having differing spring rates for enhanced oscillation of the container which holds the articles;

a means for injecting a cleaning fluid into the container for cleaning the articles in the container;

~~a means for oscillating the container within the frame;~~ an electric motor within said frame and connected directly to the exterior wall of said container, said motor having a rotating shaft with at least one eccentric weight thereon causing said motor and said container to vibrate;

a means for draining excess debris and cleaning fluid from the articles in the container once oscillation begins; and

a means for filtering and recirculating the cleaning fluid from the solid debris back into the container, the filter means comprising a series of filters.

CURRENT STATUS OF CLAIMS

1. (Presently Amended) An improved apparatus for cleaning articles in a fluid and oscillating medium, which comprises:

a frame;

a container having a wall with interior and exterior surfaces, and having a central

axis perpendicular to an article inlet opening in the container and mounted

to the frame so that the central axis of the container is non-perpendicular

to a horizontal cross-section of the frame by means of a plurality of

opposing parallel compression and tension springs having differing spring

rates for enhanced oscillation of the container which holds the articles;

a means for injecting a cleaning fluid into the container for cleaning the articles

in the container;

~~a means for oscillating the container within the frame;~~ an electric motor within

said frame and connected directly to the exterior wall of said container,

said motor having a rotating shaft with at least one eccentric weight

thereon causing said motor and said container to vibrate;

a means for draining excess debris and cleaning fluid from the articles in the

container once oscillation begins; and

a means for filtering and recirculating the cleaning fluid from the solid debris

back into the container, the filter means comprising a series of filters.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the frame comprises a plurality of integrally connected unitary components of square tubing for facilitating stability of the container,

oscillating means, and drainage means.

4. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the container is mounted to the frame by a plurality of opposing parallel compression and tension springs for oscillation of the container.
5. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the injection means comprises:
 - an intake manifold; and
 - a plurality of injection nozzles horizontally displaced on the intake manifold and over the container for injection of a cleaning fluid into the container to clean the articles contained therein.
6. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the drainage means comprises:
 - an opening in the container;
 - a reservoir below the opening and containing a plurality of ports;
 - a plurality of nozzles connected to the reservoir and ports and in alignment with the filter means.
7. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the filter means comprises:
 - a duct leading from the draining means to a first filter; and
 - a duct leading from the first filter to a second filter wherein the second filter contains a circulation pump assembly to circulate the cleaning fluid back into the container through the injection nozzle means.
8. (Previously Canceled)